Amendments in the Wakf Act

1252. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering large scale amendments in the Wakf Act in view of the deficiencies detected in the functioning of the Act;

(b) whether Government have received any representations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the amendments will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) Amendment of the Wakf Act, 1995 is under consideration.

Identifications of castes under minority community in reservation list

†1253 SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sachchar Committee has identified castes under minority community to be included in reservation list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (c) No, Sir. It was not included in its terms of reference.

(b) The report does refer to three groups of Muslims in India in terms of their social structure and suggests that the third group 'arzals' could be designated as Most Backward Classes (MBCs) as they need multifarious measures, including reservation, as they are 'Comulatively oppressed'

Grant for affiliation of minority educational institutions

1254. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a "National Commission for Minority Educational

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.